Deliberative Process

Interview Summary

Person(s) Interviewed: Dave Evans, Deputy Director, Office of Wetlands, Oceans & Watersheds

Interviewers: Julia Burch, Scott Gordon, Dave Kluesner

Date: November 23, 2015

Time: 1:00 pm-1:45 pm

Dave Evans was interviewed on November 23, 2015, as part of an internal EPA After-Action review of the Agency's response to the release at Gold King Mine in Colorado on August 5, 2015. Dave helped oversee the Office of Water's involvement with the overall response.

Synopsis of interview

General Observations and Recommendations.

Dave heard about blowout about 24 hours later from family in Colorado.

It was about a week after the release before helpot involved. The Administrator wanted OW more involved, especially in the historic condition of watershed and to be involved in planning, Watershed analysis and conditions. OW we got monitoring branch data experts started identifying known historical levels, contaminants and providing that information to the Regions. Work flowed pretty quickly after the first week.

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Data and Information Management

Long term monitoring plan became focus for our office. OWOW has contributed to draft monitoring plans, technical input and costing analysis for early proposals for on-site sampling. This effort has involved a close working relationship with R8. Additionally OWOW has identified the potential costs for states and tribes to do monitoring and is exploring the potential use of STAG funds to support that effort.

